GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6051
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
NATIONAL WATER POLICY
Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Policy, 2012 contains instructions with regard to the rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the rate of siltation in rivers in hilly and plain areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the period fixed for re-assessment of silt speed in rivers; and

(e) whether the silt speed has been affected due to contruction of dam on these rivers and if so, ., the details thereof along with corrective measures taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (PROF.SANWAR LAL JAT)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The National Water Policy, 2012 has made several recommendations for conservation, development and improved management of water resources and conservation of rivers, river corridors, water bodies and infrastructure. The Salient Features Of the National Water Policy, 2012 are annexed.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Rejuvenation had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. B.K.. Mittal, former Chairman, Central Water Commission, in the year 2001, to study and report on the problem of silting in rivers and related aspects including feasibility of desilting. The Committee studied the siltation pattern in a few rivers in India and concluded that siltation is not pronounced and alarming.
No specific study / assessment regarding rate of siltation in rivers in hilly and plain areas has been carried out by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Rejuvenation.
State Governments undertake several measures for development and management of water resources in the States which, inter-alia, include river development, conservation of water resources in reservoirs and traditional water bodies, rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments in this regard by way of technical and financial assistance under various schemes and programmes.